

SMBRC Governing Board Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2019

Welcome and Introductions

At 9:40 a.m., Fran Diamond called the meeting to order. Introductions followed.

1. Comments from Members of the Public on Items Not on the Agenda and Public Testimony on All Agenda Items

Public Comment:

Kathy Knight commented on Ballona wetlands restoration.

2. Informational Items

a) Order of Agenda

The order of the agenda remained the same.

b) Report from the Chair

There was no report from the chair.

c) Reports from the Technical Advisory Committee

Steve Bay reported that the Technical Advisory Committee had not met since the last quarterly meeting in September. No next meeting scheduled yet.

d) Reports from the Chief Administrative Director and SMBNEP Staff

Guangyu Wang reported on the distribution of the e-survey for the governance structure of SMBNEP and reminded members the deadline for returning the survey is March 4. Wang also gave an update on the status of projects recommended for Prop 12 funding and invited Kara Kemmler to report on the schedule to take the recommended projects to the Coastal Conservancy Board in March for final approval.

Guangyu Wang mentioned that there were two errors in the previously adopted Governing Board 2019 meeting dates and recommended that the meeting dates for August and October be moved from fourth Thursday back to third Thursdays of the month. Laurie Newman suggested to keep the October meeting date on the fourth Thursday due to third Thursday's conflict with Coastal Connection event. Guangyu Wang said he will e-mail members after confirmation of date change.

Tom Ford gave the SMBNEP staff report. He reported on marine, wetlands, and community engagement programs and projects being carried out under the current annual workplan as well as an update on Coastal Research Institute.

In response to Board member request, Tom asked Melodie Grubbs to report on LAX Dunes restoration project.

Public Comment:

No public comment was made.

3. Governing Board Business

a) Consideration of Approval of December 13, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The December minutes were approved with amendment to include Laurie Newman in Attendance section.

Approved. Moved: Charlie Caspary; seconded: Wing Tam. Abstained: Martha Tremblay.

b) Election of SMBRC Governing Board Vice Chairs (Comprising the Executive Committee)

Guangyu Wang introduced this item and the nominees received so far. They were Heal the Bay represented by Dr. Shelley Luce, California State Coastal Conservancy represented by Sam Schuchat, West Basin Municipal Water District represented by Gloria Gray, Los Angeles Waterkeeper represented by Bruce Reznik, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Represented by Charlie Caspary, Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Represented by Timothy Lippman. Wang opened the floor for nominations to Vice Chairs and no additional nominations were made. Six nominees were available for six positions.

Approved unanimously. Moved: Rorei Skei; seconded: Wing Tam.

c) Presentation and Discussion: Draft Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program FY 2020 Work Plan

Guangyu Wang introduced this item. Wang reported on EPA requiring work plan being submitted by April. Wang introduced Tom Ford to explain further the FY 2020 Work Plan. Questions from members followed. The final Work Plan will be brought to the Governing Board approval at the April Board meeting.

Steve Bay, Martha Tremblay, and Robert Godfrey asked questions about the Work Plan.

Public Comment:

Walter Lamb commented on annual work plan and forthcoming litigation.

Kathy Knight commented on public input at Watershed Advisory Committee Meeting.

d) Closed Session

No closed session was held.

Public Comment:

No public comment was made.

e) Member Comment

Tim Pershing commented on water quality monitoring effort after the Woolsey Fire. Fran Diamond asked Pershing to share if legislation allows funding to become available to pass along to SMBNEP staff. Shelley Luce commented on Mayor Garcetti's announcement of full recycling at Hyperion. Richard Brody expressed appreciation to be member of the Board and commented on support of science-based restoration at Ballona Wetlands. Erica Yelensky commented on Clean Water Act EPA 319 funds for post-fire restoration. Robert Godfrey commented on fishing programs of MDR Anglers.

f) Announcement of Next Meeting Date (tentatively set for April 18, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.)

Meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m. by Fran Diamond with no objection.

Attendance

Voting Members/Alternates of the Governing Board

Fran Diamond, Los Angeles Regional Water Control Board
Shelley Luce, Heal the Bay
Rod Spackman, Chevron Corporation
Kim Sidorik, Santa Monica Tourism
Wing Tam, Watershed Protection Division (City of Malibu)
Kelly Clark, Los Angeles Waterkeeper
EJ Caldwell, West Basin Municipal Water District
Michael Tripp, LA County Department of Beaches & Harbors
Jefferson Wagner, Malibu Watershed Cities (City of Malibu)
Richard Brody, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Bill Brand, South Bay Cities (City of Redondo Beach)
Kevin McKeown, Westside Cities (City of Santa Monica)
Dan Murphy, Los Angeles County Fire Department, Lifeguard Division
Charles Caspary, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Martha Tremblay, LA County Sanitation District
Kara Kemmler, California State Coastal Conservancy
Suzanne Goode, California Department of Parks and Recreation
Cung Nguyen, LA County Department of Public Works
Rorie Skei, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Clark Stevens, Resource Conservation District of Santa Monica Mountains (At-Large Member)
Timothy Lippman, Office of Sheila Kuehl, 3rd District, County of Los Angeles
Robert Godfrey, Marina del Rey Anglers (At-Large Member)

Non-Voting Members of the Governing Board:

Steve Bay, Technical Advisory Committee Chair
Erica Yelensky, US EPA Region IX
Laurie Newman, President, The Bay Foundation

Tim Pershing, Assembly Member Richard Bloom, 50th District

SMBNEP Staff present:

Francis McChesney, SWRCB Legal Counsel (via telephone)

Guangyu Wang

Jack Topel

Karina Johnston

Marcelo Villagomez

Tom Ford

Kimberly Riley

Melodie Grubbs

Heather Burdick

Other Attendees, including other Watershed Advisory Council Members:

Walter Lamb, Ballona Wetlands Land Trust

Kathy Paspalis, Culver City Resident

Kathy Knight, Sierra Club Airport Marina Group

Matthew Tecle, City of Los Angeles Council District 11

Dave Roberts, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District